

REMARKS

Specification

Applicants are amending the specification to delete the Cross Reference to Related Applications section. Thus, Applicants are withdrawing any priority claim and are now making no priority claim to any other application or issued patent. An Application Data Sheet (ADS) reflecting this is being filed concurrently herewith.

Election/Restrictions

In accordance with the restriction and election of species requirements, Applicants elect, without traverse, Invention I (suture anchor), Species XVIII (Figures 30A and 30B). With respect to the sub-species identified, Applicants elect, without traverse, Species A (claim 1) and subspecies A1 (pair of parallel channels).

In accordance with the Examiner's request, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-8 and 18-24 read on the elected Invention, Species, and Sub-species. Furthermore, at least claims 1-3 and 18-24 are generic with respect to these requirements.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing remarks, this application is now in condition for an examination on the merits, and early action is respectfully requested.

If any questions remain regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti
Application No.: 10/780,444
Examiner: T. Neal

No Fee is believed to be due. However, please charge any required fee (or credit overpayments) to the Deposit Account of the undersigned, Account No. 503410 (Docket No. 780-A03-023).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Bianco", with a large, sweeping initial "P" and a stylized "B" at the end.

Paul Bianco, Reg. #43,500

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